The ICCR's Annual report which presently is a part of MEA's Annual Report is presented for review to Parliament, as also to the Standing Committee of the Ministry of External Affairs, The recommendations of the Parliament and Standing Committee are carefully adhered to.

Quality of Mineral Water

154. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to numerous complaints regarding the quality of 'Mineral Water' marketed by spurious agencies;

(b) Whether any standard has been fixed to ensure minimum content of specified minerals in the 'Mineral Water' available in the market;

(c) if so, the agencies through which the quality/ norms are being checked; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the action being taken by the Government to check sale of ordinary drinking water at an exhorbitant price in the name of 'Mineral Water'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) (a) No specific complaint regarding marketing of mineral water by spurious agencies has been received from the Food Health Authorities of State/UTs administering the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, 1954 Rules, 1995.

(b) Standards of mineral water prescribed under the provisions of PFA Act, 1954 & Rules, do not specify any minimum limit of mineral content varies from source to source. However, the standards for mineral water as per the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rlue, 1955 are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) The Food (Health) Authorities of States/UTs have been requested to keep a vigil on quality or mineral water sold in the market.

Statement

[2]A.32—Mineral Water :

1. Natural Mineral Water means the mineral water obtained directly from potable natural or drilled sources like spring, artesian well, drilled well or from an underground formation and not from public water supply. It shall be free from dirt, foreign matter or any other ingredients injurious to health. It shall not be transported in bulk container for packaging or any other processing before packing.

2. Fortified mineral water means the water derived from any source of potable water which may by blended, treated/ fortified with mineral salts.

In Mineral water shall be packed in clean and sterile containers.

3. Mineral water shall also conform to the following standards namely :

Turbidity (not more than) (NTU)	5
Total dissolved solids (not more than) mg/1	1500
PH Value	6.5—8.5
Copper (Cu)—mg/1 (not more than)	1.0
Iron (as Fe)—mg/1 (not more than)	0.3
Nitrate (as NO 3)—mg/1 (not more than)	45
Residual Free Chlorine,—mg/1 (not more than)	0.2
Fluoride (as F)—mg/1 (not more than)	1.5
Mercury (as Hg)—mg/1 (not more than)	0.001
Cadmium (as Cd)—mg/1 (not more than)	0.01
Arsenic (as As)—mg/1 (not more than)	0.05
Cyanide	absent
Lead (as Pb)—mg/1 (not more than)	0.05
Mineral Oil	absent
Chromium (as Cr)—mg/1 (not more than)	0.05
Chlorides (as Cl)—mg/1(not more than)	200
Sulphates (SO_4)—mg/1 (not more than)	250
Alkalinity (as HCO_3)—mg/1 (not more than)	600
Yeast & mould count	absent
E.coli	absent
Salmonella and Shigella	absent
Clostridium Welchi, C. Botulinum	absent
Bacillus cereus	absent
Vibreo cholerae and V. Parahaemolyticus	absent

[Translation]

Conversion of DDA Flats

155. SHRI JAY SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of URABN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether DDA flats are being converted into commercial buildings by the flats owners;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether due to this illegal construction DDA Flats have lost their original shape;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR.U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) As reported by the DDA Instances have come to their notice where flats are being used for commercial purposes. In the last 3 years about 1645 such complaints have been received in the DDA.

(c) and (d) In some instances due to the illegal construction/alterations, DDA flats have lost their original facade. In cases where the security of the building is affected and where common space is encroached upon, action is taken by the DDA.

(e) As soon as any unauthorised construction/ misuse is noticed, action is taken under the terms of the lease deed/allotment and D.D. Act, 1957.

[English]

Cadre Review for North Eastern States

156. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) The number of cadres of All India services exist for the Seven North-Eastern States;

(b) Whether existence of small cadres is incompatible with the need for efficiency and speedy development;

(c) Whether the Government are considering constitution of joint cadre of All India Services for all the North-Eastern States;

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) For the States in the North-East, there exists;

(i) one Joint Cadre for Assam and Meghalya.

(ii) one Joint Cadre for Manipur and Tripura.

(iii) one Joint Cadre for the States of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram along with the State of Goa and the Union Territories, and

(iv) a Separate Cadre for Nagaland.

(b) Existence of small cadres does not affect efficiency and speedy development of the State.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) No such proposal has been received from any of the North-Eastern states in this respect.

CGHS Dispensaries in Karnataka

157. SHRI B.L. SHANKER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of CGHS dispensaries in Karnataka as on date;

(b) the number of dispensaries out of them opened during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 upto March 31, 1997;

(c) the number of CGHS dispensaries likely to be opened in 1997-98 and during Ninth Five Year Plan in the State; and

(d) the estimated amount likely to be spent on their opening?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) At present, under the CGHS at the State Capital at Bangalore, there are 10 Allopathic Dispensaries, 1 Polyclinic, 1 Dental Unit, as well as 1 Homoeopathic and 2 Ayurvedic Units and 2 Laboratories. These facilities were opened prior to the year 1994-95.

(c) and (d) Opening of one CGHS dispensary at an estimated cost of Rs. 15 lakhs has been proposed for unclusion in the 9th Five year Plan.

Effect of Biocide

158. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to states

(a) whether about 50 matric tonnes of mosquitos larva-killing biocide was imported from Russia in 1992;

(b) if so, whether Central Insecticides Board has turned down the proposal of import of such biocide on the ground that the necessary details about the effect of the biocide on human health, environment and soil was not available even with the WHO;

(c) if so, the justification of this import;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof and the action being taken by the Government against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

Gastro Enteritis

159. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether dreaded viral fever gastro-enteritis broke out in several parts of the district of Nizamabad due to consumption of polluted water;

(b) if so, whether this disease has also broke out in Warangal;

(c) if so, the number of people died in these districts due to this disease;